


## REMARKS

In the Official Action, Claims 1 - 27 were noted as pending in the application. Claims 1 through 16 and 25 through 27 have previously been withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-elected invention.

The Examiner rejected claim 17 and objected to claims 18-24 as being dependent upon a rejected claim, but would be otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent form. This amendment incorporates the limitations of the original claim 18 into the original claim 17. As a result, the Examiner has stated that the amended claim 17 is allowable. Original claim 18 has been cancelled as its limitations have been incorporated in to original claim 17. As amended, claims 19-24 are dependent claims on the amended claim 17.

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office Action mailed December 11, 2000. As shown above, the claim, as amended, is patentable over the cited references and in condition for allowance. The Applicant therefore requests entry of the preceding Amendment and issuance of a Notice of Allowance. Please call Brian Anderson at (404) 504-7748 if there are any further matters that can be addressed by an Examiner's Amendment prior to issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian J. Anderson  
Reg. No. 43,470

Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP  
1600 Atlanta Financial Center  
3343 Peachtree Road, N.E.  
Atlanta, GA 30326-1044  
404/504-7652  
404/365-9532 fax  
[bjm@mmmlaw.com](mailto:bjm@mmmlaw.com)